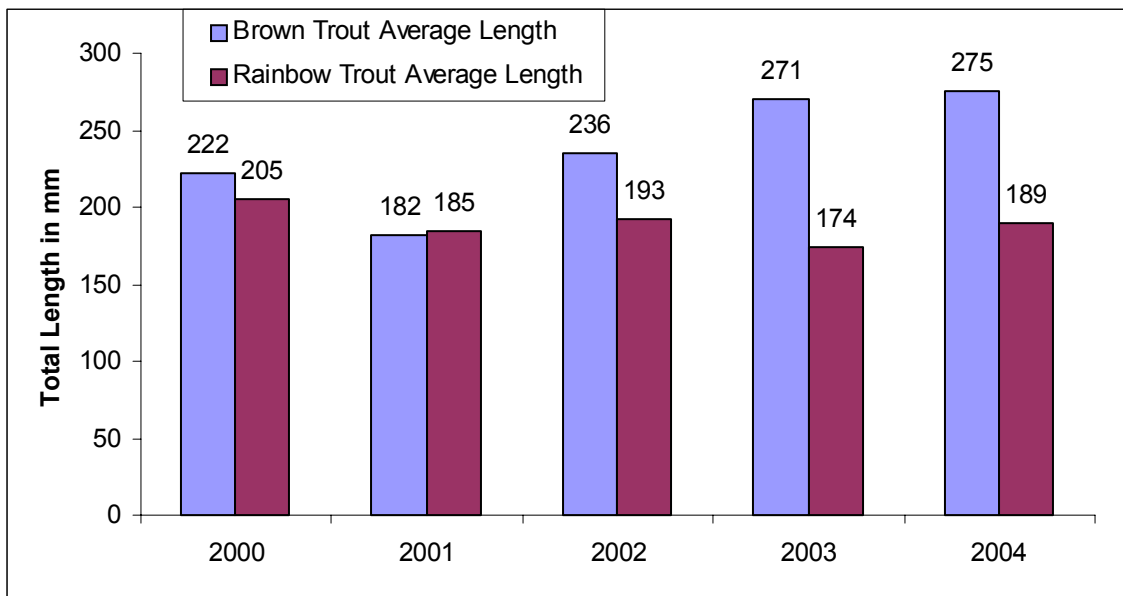




## 2004 Biologist/Fisheries Report

- Five sites, approximately 130 meters each, were chosen for routine sampling. Four sites are located in the special regulation section, and one site is located in the stocked section.
- Combined fish collections consisted of darters, dace, chubs, shiners, sculpins, suckers, bass, and trout.
- Within the special regulation sections of Whitetop Laurel Creek, the average length of rainbow trout was 189-mm, and the average brown trout was 275-mm. Catch rates of rainbow and brown trout were 17 rainbow trout per 100 meters and 4 brown trout per 100 meters.



- Catch of rainbow and brown trout per 100 meters in the special regulation sections of Whitetop Laurel Creek from 2000-2004.

| Year                                  | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Brown trout collected in 100 meters   | 14   | 13   | 9    | 6    | 4    |
| Rainbow trout collected in 100 meters | 28   | 20   | 15   | 17   | 17   |

- Brown trout fingerlings marked with coded wire tags were stocked into the special regulation area in December 2003 to evaluate growth and contribution to the brown trout to the fishery. The average size of the stocked fingerlings was 157-mm and the average size of tagged fish re-captured was 218-mm. Tagged brown trout fingerlings made up approximately 16% of total brown trout collected in the 2004 sampling.
- Within the stocked section of Whitetop Laurel Creek the average size of rainbow trout was 148-mm and the average size of the brown trout was 201-mm. On average 5 rainbow trout per 100 meters and 3 brown trout per 100 meters were collected in the stocked section.